

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 04166 052107Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 L-03 OPR-02 /021 W
-----029783 052247Z /62

P 051955Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2184

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FOR ARA/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PDIP
SUBJECT: WAIVER OF IMMUNITY-FRANCIS L. BRIGGS

REF: 2 FAM 221.5

1. MR. FRANCIS LESLIE BRIGGS, GS-15 OF THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, ASSIGNED TO THIS EMBASSY WITH DIPLOMATIC TITLE OF ATTACHE AND SO REPORTED TO FON MIN BY NOTE ON MARCH 2, 1978, HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY TELEGRAM TO REPORT TO THE CITY COURT IN MAIQUETIA. DURING SUBSEQUENT TELEPHONE CONVERSATION EMBASSY INFORMED THAT COURT WANTS MR. BRIGGS TO COME TO COURT AND GIVE A SWORN STATEMENT TO A COURT CLERK REGARDING WHAT HE WITNESSED CONCERNING AN INJURY SUSTAINED BY A CHILD AS A RESULT OF BEING STRUCK BY A CAR DRIVEN BY ANOTHER EMPLOYEE OF THE EMBASSY. COURT EMPLOYEE WAS TOLD EMBASSY WOULD TAKE MATTER UP WITH DEPARTMENT AND WOULD ADVISE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. FYI MR. BRIGGS WOULD LIKE TO MAKE STATEMENT AS IT WOULD MOST LIKELY ASSIT MR. BENJAMIN D. GRYNBAUM, LOCAL EMPLOYEE OF EMBASSY WHO WAS DRIVING EMBASSY CAR AT TIME OF INJURY.

2. ON APRIL 4, 1978, AT ABOUT NOOTIME, MR. GRYNBAUM, LOCAL EMPLOYEE IN EMBASSY GENERAL SERVICES SECTION, ACCOMPANIED
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BY MR. BRIGGS, WAS ENROUTE TO PORT AREA TO CLEAR AN OFFICIAL SHIPMENT FOR MR. BRIGGS' OFFICE. A CHILD, ABOUT FIVE YEARS OLD, DARTED FROM THE SIDEWALK TO RUN ACROSS THE STREET. THIS WAS NOT AT A CROSS-WALK. GRYNBAUM STOPPED QUICKLY BUT BEFORE STOPPING COMPLETELY THE CAR KNOCKED THE CHILD TO THE PAVEMENT. THE CHILD AND SOME RELATIVES, PLUS GRYNBAUM AND BRIGGS, WENT TO THE NEAREST HOSPITAL AND THE CHILD WAS TREATED FOR BRUISES, X-RAYS TAKEN, ETC.

CHILD WAS LATER RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL. MR. GRYNBAUM WAS CHARGED WITH CAUSING BODILY INJURY. HE WAS RELEASED ON BAIL AND TO DATE HAS NOT BEEN REQUIRED TO APPEAR IN COURT. HE DID, HOWEVER, GIVE A SWORN STATEMENT TO A COURT CLERK ON APRIL 20 REGARDING DETAILS OF ACCIDENT.

3. INASMUCH AS MR. BRIGGS WOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE STATEMENT HELPFUL TO MR. GRYNBAUM, EMBASSY REQUESTS WAIVER BE GRANTED SO THAT MR. BRIGGS CAN GIVE DEPOSITION.

4. DEPARTMENT'S EARLY RESPONSE WILL BE MOST APPRECIATED.
VAKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES, TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, SUBPOENAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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